UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/504,965	02/16/2000	Xiaoan Hou	5244-0107-2	6712

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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2622	

DATE MAILED: 02/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/504,965	HOU ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Joseph R. Pokrzywa	2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____ .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-22* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-22* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *16 February 2000* is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *2-2-16-00*.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1.   The references listed in the Information Disclosure Statement submitted on 2/16/00 have

been considered by the examiner (see attached PTO-1449).

Drawings

2.   The drawings are objected to because the reference numbers in **Figs. 1, 2, 4, 5, and 10**

are hand-written, making them hard to read. A proposed drawing correction or corrected

drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The

objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

3.   **Claims 4, 15, and 16** are objected to because of the following informalities:

In *claim 4*, line 1, either "claim 2" should be changed to read "claim 3" or "the network

adapter" should be changed to read "a network adapter";

in *claim 15*, line 2, the second occurrence of the word "to" should be erased; and

in *claim 16*, line 2, "the server unit" should read "a server unit".

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5.   **Claims 1-22** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Irribarren (U.S.

Patent Number 5,737,395).

Regarding *claim 1*, Irribarren discloses a network fax machine (single system 950, seen

in Fig. 10, column 12, lines 37 through 53, with equivalent systems seen in Figs. 3A, and 15A-

15C) for faxing files received from a remote client (see Fig. 4), comprising a server unit (voice

message system 102, seen in Fig. 2, as well as the HTTP server 1502 seen in Figs. 15A-15C)

configured to send a fax document form to a remote client (column 8, lines 10 through 22, and

column 16, lines 29 through 41) and configured to receive fax information from the remote client

(column 10, lines 43 through 64, and column 16, line 29 through column 17, line 22), the fax

information including an identifier corresponding to a destination fax machine (column 10, lines

53 through 55, seen in step 752 of Fig. 7) and a file to be faxed to the destination fax machine

(column 10, lines 46 through 50, seen in step 750 of Fig. 7, and column 16, lines 42 through 44,

seen in step 1604 in Fig. 16), and a fax control unit (faxcard 208, column 7, lines 2 through 6,

and column 10, lines 50 through 62) configured to use the identifier to connect the network fax

machine to the destination fax machine and configured to send the file to the destination fax

machine by facsimile communication (column 10, lines 56 through 64, seen in step 756 of Fig.

7).

Regarding *claim 2*, Irribarren discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 1, and

further teaches that the server unit comprises a hypertext transfer protocol server (HTTP server

1502 seen in Figs. 15A-15C) configured to serve a hypertext markup language document to the

remote client (column 15, lines 1 through 47), the hypertext markup language document

including the fax document form (column 15, line 48 through column 16, line 58).

Regarding *claim 3*, Irribarren discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 1, and

further teaches of a network adapter (see Figs. 3A and 10, wherein the CPU 954 includes the

account administrator 406, fax rcv/snd administrator 410, and voice message application 422),

the network adapter including the server unit (see Fig. 10).

Regarding *claim 4*, Irribarren discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 2, and

further teaches that the network adapter comprises a network interface card (see Fig. 10,

communications cards 202, 952, 208, and 416).

Regarding *claim 5*, Irribarren discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 1, and

further teaches that the fax control unit is configured to connect to a public switched telephone

network (see Figs. 2, and 15A-15C) and is configured to send the file to the destination fax

machine via the public switched telephone network (column 5, lines 41 through 54, and column

10, lines 53 through 61).

Regarding *claim 6*, Irribarren discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 1, and

further teaches of a common gateway interface configured to read and parse the fax information

received by the server unit (see Fig. 4, column 8, lines 6 through 27, and column 10, lines 43

through 58).

Regarding *claim 7*, Irribarren discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 6, and

further teaches of a fax job manager configured to convert the file to be faxed into a facsimile

format (see Fig. 4, and column 10, lines 56 through 58).

Regarding *claim 8*, Irribarren discloses a method for faxing files received from a remote

client (see Fig. 4), comprising sending a fax document form to a remote client (column 8, lines

10 through 22, and column 16, lines 29 through 41), receiving fax information from the remote

client (column 10, lines 43 through 64, and column 16, line 29 through column 17, line 22), the

fax information including an identifier corresponding to a destination fax machine (column 10,

lines 53 through 55, seen in step 752 of Fig. 7) and a file to be faxed to the destination fax

machine (column 10, lines 46 through 50, seen in step 750 of Fig. 7, and column 16, lines 42

through 44, seen in step 1604 in Fig. 16), connecting the network fax machine to the destination

fax machine using the identifier (column 10, lines 50 through 64), and sending the file to the

destination fax machine by facsimile communication (column 10, lines 56 through 64, seen in

step 756 of Fig. 7).

Regarding *claim 9*, Irribarren discloses the method discussed above in claim 8, and

further teaches that the step of sending comprises serving a hypertext markup language

document to the remote client (column 15, lines 1 through 47), the hypertext markup language

document including the fax document form (column 15, line 48 through column 16, line 58).

Regarding *claim 10*, Irribarren discloses the method discussed above in claim 8, and

further teaches that the step of connecting comprises connecting to a public switched telephone

network (see Figs. 2, and 15A-15C), and wherein the step of sending comprises sending the file

to the destination fax machine via the public switched telephone network (column 5, lines 41

through 54, and column 10, lines 53 through 61).

Regarding *claim 11*, Irribarren discloses the method discussed above in claim 8, and

further teaches of the step of reading and parsing the fax information received from the remote

client (see Fig. 4, column 8, lines 6 through 27, and column 10, lines 43 through 58).

Regarding *claim 12*, Irribarren discloses the method discussed above in claim 11, and

further teaches of the step of converting the file to be faxed into a facsimile format (see Fig. 4,

and column 10, lines 56 through 58).

Regarding *claim 13*, Irribarren discloses a network fax machine (single system 950, seen

in Fig. 10, column 12, lines 37 through 53, with equivalent systems seen in Figs. 3A, and 15A-

15C) for faxing files received from a remote client (see Fig. 4), comprising means for sending a

fax document form to a remote client (column 8, lines 10 through 22, and column 16, lines 29

through 41), means for receiving fax information from the remote client (column 10, lines 43

through 64, and column 16, line 29 through column 17, line 22), the fax information including an

identifier corresponding to a destination fax machine (column 10, lines 53 through 55, seen in

step 752 of Fig. 7) and a file to be faxed to the destination fax machine (column 10, lines 46

through 50, seen in step 750 of Fig. 7, and column 16, lines 42 through 44, seen in step 1604 in

Fig. 16), means for connecting the network fax machine to the destination fax machine using the

identifier (column 10, lines 50 through 64), and means for sending the file to the destination fax

machine by facsimile communication (column 10, lines 56 through 64, seen in step 756 of Fig.

7).

Regarding *claim 14*, Irribarren discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 13,

and further teaches that the means for sending a fax document form to a remote client and for

receiving fax information from the remote client comprises means for serving a hypertext

markup language document to the remote client (column 15, lines 1 through 47), the hypertext

markup language document including the fax document form (column 15, line 48 through

column 16, line 58).

Regarding *claim 15*, Irribarren discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 13,

and further teaches that means for connecting the network fax machine to the destination fax

machine comprises means for connecting the network fax machine to a public switched

telephone network (see Figs. 2, and 15A-15C), and wherein the means for sending the file to the

destination fax machine by facsimile communication comprises means for sending the file to the

destination fax machine via the public switched telephone network (column 5, lines 41 through

54, and column 10, lines 53 through 61).

Regarding *claim 16*, Irribarren discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 13,

and further teaches of means for reading and parsing the fax information received by a server

unit (see Fig. 4, column 8, lines 6 through 27, and column 10, lines 43 through 58).

Regarding *claim 17*, Irribarren discloses the fax machine discussed above in claim 16,

and further teaches of means for converting the file to be faxed into a facsimile format (see Fig.

4, and column 10, lines 56 through 58).

Regarding *claim 18*, Irribarren discloses a computer readable medium containing

program instructions for execution on a computer system (see Figs. 3A and 10, and column 6,

lines 43 through 60, and column 12, lines 37 through 53), which when executed by a computer,

cause the computer to perform method steps for faxing files received from a remote client (see

Fig. 4), the method comprising the steps of sending a fax document form to a remote client

(column 8, lines 10 through 22, and column 16, lines 29 through 41), receiving fax information

from the remote client (column 10, lines 43 through 64, and column 16, line 29 through column

17, line 22), the fax information including an identifier corresponding to a destination fax

machine (column 10, lines 53 through 55, seen in step 752 of Fig. 7) and a file to be faxed to the

destination fax machine (column 10, lines 46 through 50, seen in step 750 of Fig. 7, and column

16, lines 42 through 44, seen in step 1604 in Fig. 16), connecting the network fax machine to the

destination fax machine using the identifier (column 10, lines 50 through 64), and sending the

file to the destination fax machine by facsimile communication (column 10, lines 56 through 64,

seen in step 756 of Fig. 7).

Regarding *claim 19*, Irribarren discloses the medium discussed above in claim 18, and

further teaches that the step of sending comprises serving a hypertext markup language

document to the remote client (column 15, lines 1 through 47), the hypertext markup language

document including the fax document form (column 15, line 48 through column 16, line 58).

Regarding *claim 20*, Irribarren discloses the medium discussed above in claim 18, and

further teaches that the step of connecting comprises connecting to a public switched telephone

network (see Figs. 2, and 15A-15C), and wherein the step of sending comprises sending the file

to the destination fax machine via the public switched telephone network (column 5, lines 41

through 54, and column 10, lines 53 through 61).

Regarding *claim 21*, Irribarren discloses the medium discussed above in claim 18, and

further teaches of program instructions for causing the computer to perform the step of reading

and parsing the fax information received from the remote client (see Fig. 4, column 8, lines 6

through 27, and column 10, lines 43 through 58).

Regarding *claim 22*, Irribarren discloses the medium discussed above in claim 21, and

further teaches of program instructions for causing the computer to perform the step of

converting the file to be faxed into a facsimile format (see Fig. 4, and column 10, lines 56

through 58).

Citation of Pertinent Prior Art

6.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure:

Bettis (U.S. Patent Number 6,421,708) discloses a system for accessing messages

through the World Wide Web;

Kumar *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 6,240,445) discloses a system that notifies a user of a

received message, which can subsequently be transmitted to a facsimile device;

Saito *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 6,208,426) discloses a system of notifying a destination

of a facsimile message by using a URL that indicates the message's location;

Ho *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,805,298) discloses a system of retrieving e-mail

messages through a facsimile device; and

Gordon (U.S. Patent Number 5,608,786) discloses a system of retrieving stored
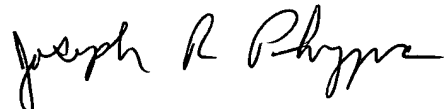
messages through the Internet.

Conclusion

7.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Joe Pokrzywa whose telephone number is (703) 305-0146. The

examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (703) 305-4712. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Joseph R. Pokrzywa
Examiner
Art Unit 2622

jrp